

## WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT**

**DATE: MARCH 25, 2019**

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: OTHERS PRESENT:**

SUPERVISORS McDEVITT  
BEATY  
LEGGETT  
BRAYMER  
STROUGH  
SIMPSON  
WILD

REPRESENTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:  
ED BARTHOLOMEW, PRESIDENT  
JOHN WHEATLY, VICE PRESIDENT  
JENNIFER SWITZER, DIRECTOR, FINANCE  
REPRESENTING PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:  
WAYNE LAMOTHE, COUNTY PLANNER  
CHRIS BELDEN, ASSISTANT PLANNER  
SARA FRANKENFELD, GIS ADMINISTRATOR  
BETH GILLES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LAKE CHAMPLAIN-LAKE GEORGE  
REGIONAL PLANNING BOARD  
RONALD F. CONOVER, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
AMY LAVINE, FIRST ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY  
SARAH MCLENITHAN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD  
FRANK THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER  
SUPERVISORS DRISCOLL  
GERAGHTY  
LOEB  
TRAVIS WHITEHEAD, TOWN OF QUEENSBURY RESIDENT  
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*  
LESLIE LOVELACE, SECRETARY TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

SUPERVISORS HOGAN  
MAGOWAN

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*Please note, the following contains a summarization of the March 25, 2019 meeting of the Economic Growth & Development Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link: <http://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/Archive/2019/economic>*

Mr. McDevitt called the meeting of the Economic Growth & Development Committee to order at 9:01 a.m.

Mr. McDevitt noted this past weekend he had observed how economically beneficial it was for the City of Glens Falls to hold the basketball championship game at the Cool Insuring Arena.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Ed Bartholomew, *President of the Economic Growth & Development Corporation (EDC)*, who presented a PowerPoint Presentation entitled “Collaborating”, which he reviewed in detail. *A copy of the presentation is on file with the meeting minutes.*

A brief discussion ensued during which Mr. Wild requested Mr. Bartholomew provide a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) chart for the neighboring Glens Falls area at a future meeting.

Mr. Thomas entered the meeting at 9:24 a.m.

Privilege of the floor was extended to John Wheatly, *Vice President of the Economic Growth & Development Corporation (EDC)*, who noted the Saratoga-Warren-Washington Counties Workforce Development Board (SWWWDB) had undergone some changes which included appointing Mr. Doug Leavens as the new Executive Director, adding the SWWWDB had plans to make a future presentation to the Board of Supervisors. He said the emphasis of the SWWWDB had previously been on job seekers, but had expanded to include business services.

A lengthy discussion ensued in regards to trade jobs.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Travis Whitehead, *Town of Queensbury Resident*, who inquired what the goal was for the Comprehensive Development Plan and Mr. Bartholomew replied manufacturing was high on the list near the airport and surrounding area.

Mr. Leggett announced on Friday March 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. the first annual Southern Adirondacks Job Fair would be held at the North Warren School Gymnasium which Chris Hunsinger, *Director, Employment & Training*, would be present for in a workforce development effort.

Mr. Strough commended Mr. Bartholomew on having recently been presented a Lifetime Achievement Award and Contributions to the Community. The committee gave a round of applause.

Mr. McDevitt noted he had attended a meeting on the Mental Health Resident project set for Cooper Street in the City of Glens Falls and said he would like a future discussion to take place on projects such as that for property tax relief and funding. Mr. Bartholomew explained there were several guidelines in place in order to receive funding, but he believed it was possible to work on changing the guidelines with the help of the local legislation.

A brief discussion ensued in regards to the locations for not-for-profit projects, mostly found in the City of Glens Falls and Town of Queensbury.

Mr. McDevitt requested approval of the minutes of the last Committee meeting. Motion was made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mr. Wild and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Wayne LaMothe, *County Planner*, who distributed copies of his agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes*.

Commencing his agenda review, Mr. LaMothe presented the following requests:

- 1) To establish Capital Project H383, *Schroon Lake Invasive Species Prevention & Control Program*, in the amount of \$386,334.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. Leggett and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes*.

- 2) To authorize a Memorandum of Agreement with project partners identified in the 2018 local Waterfront Revitalization Program Funding Award.

Motion was made by Mr. Wild, seconded by Mr. Leggett and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 19<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes*.

- 3) To fill the position of Junior Planner, *Grade 12, Base Annual Salary \$38,810*.

Ms. Braymer requested Mr. LaMothe provide a description of the duties associated with the position. Mr. LaMothe apprised the job duties would consist of working with various communities and the County to identify needs, including a housing needs analysis market study which they would be working with the EDC to complete.

A lengthy discussion ensued in regards to the Planning Departments staffing during which Ms. Braymer expressed

a desire for there to be an employee on staff whose focus was on sustainability issues.

Motion was made by Mr. Beaty, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Personnel & Higher Education Committee for reporting purposes . *A copy of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position form is on file with the minutes.*

Continuing with the Information for Discussion/Review portion of the his agenda, Mr. LaMothe thanked Mr. Bartholomew for arranging the Affordable Housing Roundtable at Crandall Library, apprising he was seeking approval from the Committee to complete a housing needs analysis market study which would be provided by a third party as required in order to apply for funding as a collaborative effort with the EDC.

A brief discussion ensued.

Motion was made by Mr. Wild, seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 19<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. *\*Note: Subsequent to the meeting it was determined that no resolution was required as no County funds were involved and the contract with the third party would be administered by the EDC.*

Privilege of the floor was extended to Sara Frankenfeld, *GIS Administrator*, who provided a PowerPoint Presentation on the Capital Improvement Plan Survey and website.

Mr. LaMothe apprised on April 11<sup>th</sup> a First Wilderness Heritage Corridor public informational meeting would be held at the Chestertown Office Building at 6:00 p.m. regarding the hiking trail plan from Corinth to Tahawus.

A lengthy discussion ensued in regards to the hiking trail and the railway corridor.

Mr. LaMothe mentioned on March 15<sup>th</sup> The Town of Johnsburg Community Development Corporation held a meeting for broadband access and State funding programs which Messrs Leggett and Thomas attended. He stated the four areas of interest were the Towns of Johnsburg, Thurman, Stony Creek and Warrensburg.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Beth Gilles, *Executive Director, Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board*, who spoke about a funding source that her office was designated as the local development district for and which her office was administering the associated grant. She noted up to \$500,000 would be awarded for infrastructure and up to \$250,000 would be awarded for local development which included other workforce development and tourism. She welcomed anyone with questions to contact her office.

There being no further business to discuss, on motion made by Mr. Wild and seconded by Mr. Simpson, Mr. McDevitt adjourned the meeting at 10:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leslie Lovelace, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board